

Warwick School Committee Minutes
Meeting August 12, 2014
Open Session

The Warwick School Committee met in Open Session at Toll Gate High School on Tuesday, August 12, 2014. Ms. Furtado called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with the following in attendance:

COMMITTEE

Bethany A. Furtado, Chair
M. Terri Medeiros, Vice Chair
Karen Bachus, Clerk
Jennifer Ahearn
Eugene A. Nadeau

ADMINISTRATION

Richard D'Agostino, Superintendent
Dennis Mullen, Director of Secondary Education
Lynn Dambruch, Director of Elementary Education
Rosemary Healey, Esq., Director of Compliance & Human Resources

MOTION 2014-201: Moved by Mr. Nadeau, and seconded by Ms. Ahearn, to go into closed session for discussion and/or action regarding those items of business exempt from open meetings under General Laws of Rhode Island 42-46-5(a)(1) and (a)(2).

MOTION PASSES (3-0)

Bethany A. Furtado – Aye	M. Terri Medeiros – not present for vote
Eugene A. Nadeau – Aye	Karen Bachus – not present for vote
Jennifer Ahearn – Aye	

Open Meeting reconvened at 7:05 p.m.

Anthony Ferrucci, Chief Budget Officer
Pledge of Allegiance and National Anthem

Approval of Minutes:

MOTION 2014-202: Moved by Mr. Nadeau, seconded by Ms. Furtado, to approve the Minutes of the Open Session for July 2, 2014, July 15, 2014 and July 23, 2014.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Bethany A. Furtado – Aye	M. Terri Medeiros – Aye
Eugene A. Nadeau – Aye	Karen Bachus – Aye
Jennifer Ahearn – Aye	

MOTION 2014-203: Moved by Mr. Nadeau, seconded by Ms. Furtado, to approve the Minutes of the Executive Session for July 2, 2014, July 15, 2014 and July 23, 2014.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Bethany A. Furtado – Aye	M. Terri Medeiros – Aye
Eugene A. Nadeau – Aye	Karen Bachus – Aye
Jennifer Ahearn – Aye	

Approval of Transfers

MOTION 2014-204: Moved by Mr. Nadeau, seconded by Ms. Furtado, to approve the transfers presented to the Committee.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Bethany A. Furtado – Aye	M. Terri Medeiros – Aye
Eugene A. Nadeau – Aye	Karen Bachus – Aye
Jennifer Ahearn – Aye	

Approval of Warrants

MOTION 2014-205: Moved by Ms. Bachus, seconded by Ms. Medeiros, to approve the warrants presented to the Committee.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Bethany A. Furtado – Aye	M. Terri Medeiros – Aye
Eugene A. Nadeau – Aye	Karen Bachus – Aye
Jennifer Ahearn – Aye	

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Professional personnel items:

Appointments:

MOTION 2014-206: Moved by Mr. Nadeau, seconded by Ms. Furtado, to approve the appointment of **Brooke Potter**, school social worker (category 1, Step 3) pending approval of Robert Tvenstrup's request for an unrestricted leave for the 2014-2015 school year; the appointment of **Alana Cottrell**, special class pre-school teacher (step 1) pending receipt of National and State BCI; and **Elizabeth Marquis**, attendance and discipline administrator, part-time position at a salary of \$34,146.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Bethany A. Furtado – Aye M. Terri Medeiros – Aye
Eugene A. Nadeau – Aye Karen Bachus – Aye
Jennifer Ahearn – Aye

Leave of Absence:

MOTION 2014-207: Moved by Mr. Nadeau, seconded by Ms. Furtado, that the request for an unrestricted leave for **Chad Tvenstrup**, social studies teacher at Pilgrim High School be approved effective for the 2014-2015 school year and that the request for an unrestricted leave for **Roberta Tvenstrup**, social worker at Wickes Elementary School be approved effective for the 2014-2015 school year.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Bethany A. Furtado – Aye M. Terri Medeiros – Aye
Eugene A. Nadeau – Aye Karen Bachus – Aye
Jennifer Ahearn – Aye

Retirement/resignation

MOTION 2014-208: Moved by Mr. Nadeau, seconded by Ms. Furtado, that the **retirement of Debra Beattie**, elementary teacher at Hoxsie Elementary School be accepted effective July 23, 2014; and that the **resignation of Stephen Brady**, electricity teacher at the Career Center be accepted effective August 4, 2014.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Bethany A. Furtado – Aye M. Terri Medeiros – Aye
Eugene A. Nadeau – Aye Karen Bachus – Aye
Jennifer Ahearn – Aye

Classified personnel items:

Retirement/resignation:

MOTION 2014-209: Moved by Mr. Nadeau, seconded by Ms. Medeiros, that the **resignation of Cheryl Bongivengo**, controller be accepted effective August 22, 2014; that the **resignation of Joan Sullivan**, teacher assistant at Winman Junior High School be accepted effective July 21, 2014 and that the **retirement of Paul Jansson**, construction coordinator-maintenance be accepted effective September 12, 2014.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Bethany A. Furtado – Aye M. Terri Medeiros – Aye
Eugene A. Nadeau – Aye Karen Bachus – Aye
Jennifer Ahearn – Aye

Coaching Appointments:

MOTION 2014-210: Moved by Mr. Nadeau, seconded by Ms. Medeiros, that the appointment of **Courtney Nelson**, head coach girls' tennis at Pilgrim High School be approved for one year only pending receipt of RIDE# coaching certificate; that the appointment of **Tamra Gallo**, head coach girls' tennis at Veterans High School be approved for one year only and that the appointment of **Keith Randall**, assistant coach girls' soccer at Veterans High School be approved.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Bethany A. Furtado – Aye M. Terri Medeiros – Aye
Eugene A. Nadeau – Aye Karen Bachus – Aye
Jennifer Ahearn – Aye

Approval to utilize national technology bidding/purchasing collaborative

MOTION 2014-211: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Ms. Medeiros, to approve the utilization of the national technology bidding/purchasing collaborative.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Bethany A. Furtado – Aye M. Terri Medeiros – Aye
Eugene A. Nadeau – Aye Karen Bachus – Aye
Jennifer Ahearn – Aye

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Approval of FY2015 Revised Budget Adoption – Mr. Ferrucci reported that based on the actions of the School Committee on July 15, 2014, and the contractual commitments faced by the school district, the administration have prepared a Second Recommended Revised operating budget for FY2015 as follows:

- FY2014 Projected Surplus as reported on July 15, 2014

Committed Funds	\$2,021,500
Unrestricted Funds	<u>\$1,387,808</u>
Total Surplus	\$3,409,308
- Outlined below are recommendations to provide a budget for committed funds activities and to reinstate only those cuts that are contractually required.

Reallocation of Committed Funds

<u>Recommended Actions</u>	<u>Obj. Code</u>	<u>Increase</u>
RFP Consultant	53201	150,000
Veterans High School Roof	57202	1,200,000
Lippitt Elementary	57202	77,500
Wickes Elementary	57202	182,000
Drum Rock	57202	140,000
Sherman Elementary	57202	12,000
Warwick Avenue	57202	35,000
Technology Hardware	57309	<u>225,000</u>
Total Committed Funds Carried Forward		\$2,021,500

Reinstatement of Cuts Contractually Required

<u>Recommended Action-Reinstate:</u>	<u>Obj. Code</u>	<u>Increase</u>
Reinstate Curriculum Prof. Development	51115	\$ 30,000
Reinstate District Wide Prof. Development	51305	<u>250,000</u>
Total Cuts Reinstated-Unrestricted Surplus		\$ 280,000

The presented FY2015 Superintendent's Recommended Revised Budget would now be \$162,144,164.

Mr. Ferrucci explained that approximately \$2 million of the \$2.7 million surplus that was reseeded constitutes committed funds for projects started earlier this year but because they weren't completed by June 30th, those funds must be carried over to the FY 2015 budget. The remaining \$700,000 in surplus funds is split between \$280,000 for teacher professional development and \$437,000 for technology hardware. Ferrucci said it was important to include the professional development money because a professional development day will be held later this month for teachers, which they must attend according to their contract, and if the money wasn't there, the professional development session would not have been held, opening up Warwick Public Schools to a breach of contract lawsuit from the Warwick Teachers Union.

MOTION 2014-212: Moved by Ms. Ahearn to reinstate \$437,000 funding back into technology, seconded by Ms. Furtado.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Bethany A. Furtado – Aye	M. Terri Medeiros – Aye
Eugene A. Nadeau - Aye	Karen Bachus - Aye
Jennifer Ahearn - Aye	

MOTION 2014-213: Moved by Ms. Ahearn to provided services for three math consultants (\$195,000), seconded by Mr. Nadeau.

[Note – after further discussion this motion was tabled by Ms. Ahearn to be revisited so more information can be provided.]

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Ms. Ahearn said she felt math scores are too low and schools need improvement in that area. She wanted to hire three math consultants, at \$65,000 each, for a year to train and support math and science staff. It was decided, after discussion, to not limit the number to three consultants and instead add the equivalent dollar amount to be used to hire as many or as few consultants as the department saw fit.

MOTION 2014-214: Moved by Ms. Ahearn, seconded by Ms. Furtado, to table the motion presented for three math consultants.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Bethany A. Furtado – Aye M. Terri Medeiros – Aye
Eugene A. Nadeau - Aye Karen Bachus - Aye
Jennifer Ahearn - Aye

Ms. Bachus inquired about the status of the English teachers and the third librarian for the junior high school. Ms. Healey responded that the librarian position remains in the budget, and if we don't fill the position by the end of the summer, we will put a substitute teacher in until we can fill the position. The Superintendent will be addressing the three literacy teachers at the junior high level that are in question and said it is something we are watching with enrollment.

Mr. Nadeau recommended that \$50,000 be restored to arts and music budget. Mr. Ferrucci said the music department has realized a surplus the last three years and said he cannot support adding money to a budget that has surpluses the last three years.

MOTION 2014-215: Moved by Mr. Nadeau to restore \$50,000 to the arts and music budget.
MOTION FAILED for lack of a second.

The Chair called for any other amendments to the budget – there were none.

MOTION 2014-216: Call for reinstatement of \$437,000 for technology and \$280,000 for curriculum profession development and district-wide professional development.

VOTE: MOTION PASSES (3 ayes 2 nays)

Bethany A. Furtado – Aye M. Terri Medeiros – Aye
Eugene A. Nadeau - Nay Karen Bachus - Nay
Jennifer Ahearn - Aye

Approval of consideration of RIDE's offer to transfer Warwick Area Career and Technical

Center property to Warwick Public Schools – Mr. Ferrucci requested that the School Committee authorize the school administration team to move forward with accepting the State's offer to transfer the Career and Technical Center property to Warwick Public Schools in the amount of \$3,100,000 to be paid out over the next three fiscal years. This offer has been reviewed by the School Administration team and Ms. Healey. He noted that the \$3.1 will be controlled by WPS, and would eliminate the uncertainty that the Career Center could be moved to another community. He said it is conceivable that the state could choose to close the facility and we would be placed in a position to send our students to other communities and incur tuition costs of \$1.7 to \$2.1 million a year (every year thereafter). By having control of the property, long term planning of the use would fall under control of the School Committee. Ms. Ahearn said her concerns were taking on a facility when we have buildings we are trying to get rid of; what is the building in need of; how much to operate.

MOTION 2014-217: Moved by Ms. Ahearn for further discussion and final approval for the next meeting, seconded by Mr. Nadeau:

MOTION FAILS (2 ayes 3 nays)

Bethany A. Furtado – Nay M. Terri Medeiros – Nay
Eugene A. Nadeau - Aye Karen Bachus - Nay
Jennifer Ahearn - Aye

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MOTION 2014-218: Moved by Ms. Bachus, seconded by Ms. Medeiros, to accept the State's offer of \$3.1 million.

MOTION PASSES (3 ayes 2 nays)

Bethany A. Furtado – Aye M. Terri Medeiros – Aye
Eugene A. Nadeau - Nay Karen Bachus - Aye
Jennifer Ahearn - Nay

Update of voice and video recording of school committee meetings - Mr. Ferrucci said a request was made at the July 15th meeting to explore the potential of recording future public school committee meetings using audio and video equipment. We have been in contact with the staff and consultant that were involved with the process for the Warwick City Council and have started the process of identifying equipment needed with associated costs. The software used by the city is POD Cast and U STREM (both of which have no cost). It is expected that the proposal will be completed for consideration at the September meeting, and if accepted, it could be anticipated that some form of public recording could be in place by October or November meeting.

Approval of contract award for iBoss Web filtering equipment (\$8,030.00) –

MOTION 2014-219: Moved by Ms. Bachus, seconded by Ms. Furtado, to approve the contract award.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Bethany A. Furtado – Aye M. Terri Medeiros – Aye
Eugene A. Nadeau - Aye Karen Bachus - Aye
Jennifer Ahearn - Aye

Approval of advertising on Warwick Vets HS wrestling mat – tabled at this time.

**Pilgrim High School Girls Soccer Team Sponsors –
Verizon and Coastway – advertising at home games**

The girls' soccer team currently has two sponsors \$1,000 each – Verizon and Coastway. A request to have a sign posted at each game is being made. The signs posted will be taken down after the games. The football team currently does this.

MOTION 2014-220: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Ms. Medeiros, to approve.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Bethany A. Furtado – Aye M. Terri Medeiros – Aye
Eugene A. Nadeau - Aye Karen Bachus - Aye
Jennifer Ahearn - Aye

Update on high school fields and tracks – Mr. LaPlante reported on the playing fields and said every one of those fields could be played on today. He said that there is no revenue generated by others who use the fields. Funds from the project part of the 2006 bond request have not been released.

FY2014 Monthly Fiscal Report (Mr. Ferrucci)

For the period ending 8/1/14:

Total Revenue received	\$120,437,232
Total Expenditures	\$6,466,363
Total Encumbrances	\$ 924,963

[Excludes salaries and fringe benefits]

Summary Review of non-salary and fringe benefits costs

School Committee Approved Budget 7/15/14	School Committee Revised Approved Budget	School Committee Revised Approved	Year to date 8/1/14 Exp.&Encumber	Percentage of Non Staff Costs
\$25,807,010	\$	\$	\$2,125,939	8.2%

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Bids/Change Orders:

MOTION 2014-221: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Mr. Nadeau, that the bid for Wickes Elementary School abatement project in the amount of \$14,725 be awarded to SiteCon Corporation as per bid tabulations.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Bethany A. Furtado – Aye M. Terri Medeiros – Aye
Eugene A. Nadeau - Aye Karen Bachus - Aye
Jennifer Ahearn - Aye

MOTION 2014-222: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Ms. Medeiros, that the bid for Chromebook and accessories on a per unit/as needed basis be awarded to Whalley Computer Associates as per bid tabulation.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Bethany A. Furtado – Aye M. Terri Medeiros – Aye
Eugene A. Nadeau - Aye Karen Bachus - Aye
Jennifer Ahearn - Aye

MOTION 2014-223: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Mr. Nadeau, to approve the change orders for summer projects as reported be approved.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Bethany A. Furtado – Aye M. Terri Medeiros – Aye
Eugene A. Nadeau - Aye Karen Bachus - Aye
Jennifer Ahearn - Aye

Public Comment:

Darlene Netcoh commented she had hoped to see the restoration of the literacy positions as well as Margaret Blaire and Darilyn Gorton. Jessica reported she had called about the condition of the field at Pilgrim and that the football team was willing to help. She also requested that the ALAP program be reinstated.

MOTION 2014-224: Moved by Ms. Bachus, seconded by Ms. Medeiros, to adjourn.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Bethany A. Furtado – Aye M. Terri Medeiros – Aye
Eugene A. Nadeau - Aye Karen Bachus - Aye
Jennifer Ahearn - Aye

Meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.